

## **CRISIS IN EGYPT**

The U.S. Department of State has established a task force on Egypt. For inquiries about American citizens, please contact the State Department through its dedicated e-mail address at [EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov](mailto:EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov) or call toll-free at (888)407-4747.

The State Department authorized voluntary departure of dependents and non-emergency employees and issued a Travel Warning today [see below] recommending that “U.S. citizens avoid travel to Egypt due to ongoing political and social unrest.” Post has just issued a warden message informing U.S. Citizens in Egypt who would like depart that State is making arrangements to provide transportation to safe haven locations in Europe.

No evacuation flights were scheduled for February 4, 2011, but consular officers were at the airport to assist U.S. citizens with commercial flights. The Situation in Egypt portion of <http://travel.state.gov> continues to have the most updated information about evacuation matters.

### **LATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

- Protesters planned large demonstrations today to push President Mubarak from office on the “Day of Departure.” PM Shafik appeared on state television February 3 and instructed the Minister of Interior not to interfere with peaceful protests. Defense Minister Tantawi and leaders of the armed forces visited Tahrir Square today.
- It is uncertain whether anti-Mubarak demonstrators will remain in Tahrir Square or move to regime symbols such as the Presidential Palace after Friday prayers. The military has restricted access to Tahrir Square, is conducting security checks of all entrants, and is trying to prevent supplies from reaching protesters.
- Violent clashes between pro-Mubarak and anti-government protesters February 3 left four people dead in the town of Sharqiyah.
- S. Res. 44, sponsored by Senators Kerry and McCain, urging Mubarak to hand over power to a caretaker government and begin a peaceful transition to a democratic society, passed the Senate last night
- Egypt is expected to dominate the Munich Security Conference February 4-6.

### **SECURITY SITUATION**

- The curfew in Cairo remains in effect between 1700 and 0700 Cairo time (1000 and 0000 EST)

## **Warden Message on Evacuation Transportation**

### **February 1, 2011**

The U.S. Embassy in Cairo informs U.S. citizens in Egypt who wish to depart that the Department of State is making arrangements to provide transportation to safe haven locations in Europe. This assistance will be provided on a reimbursable basis, as required by U.S. law. U.S. citizens who travel on US government –arranged transport will be expected to make their own onward travel plans from the safe haven location.

**The U.S. Embassy advises U.S. citizens in Egypt that we plan to continue evacuation efforts on Thursday, February 3 and are assessing the need to continue flights after that, in view of the availability of commercial flights and decreased demand for U.S. government evacuation flights. Additional U.S. government flights after Thursday are unlikely.**

**All remaining U.S. citizens who wish to depart Egypt on a U.S. government flight and who are able to do so should immediately proceed to the HAJ Terminal 1, Hall 4 as soon as possible on February 3. Do not wait for a call from the U.S. Embassy. Further delay is not advisable.**

This assistance will be provided on a reimbursable basis, as required by U.S. law. U.S. citizens who travel on US government – arranged transport will be expected to make their own onward travel plans from safe haven locations in Europe. Flights to evacuation points began departing Egypt on Monday, January 31.

The welfare and safety of U.S. citizens in Egypt remains one of State Department's top priorities. Approximately 1,800 U.S citizens and their family members have been evacuated from Egypt in an operation that began on Monday, January 31.

Immediate family members (spouses and children) who are not U.S. citizens must be documented for entry into the safe haven country and/or U.S., if that is your final destination. All U.S. citizen travelers and their spouses and children, are required to have valid travel documents. The U.S. Embassy in Cairo will assist U.S. citizens with travel documents. U.S. citizens who do not hold a valid U.S. passport or visa and are interested in departing Egypt via USG-chartered transportation should contact the US Department of State and Embassy Cairo by sending an email to [EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov](mailto:EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov) or by calling 1-202-501-4444

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

I'm ready to go. What do I do?

Documented U.S. citizens may proceed to the HAJ Terminal 4 of the airport as of Monday, January 31, 11:00 am.

My child is a U.S. citizen. Can my whole family be evacuated?

A U.S. citizen child may be escorted by one adult, preferably a parent, who has appropriate travel documents. If a family has more than one U.S. citizen child, the one-adult rule still applies.

### **Do I need a U.S. passport?**

All U.S. citizen travelers and their spouses and children, are required to have valid travel documents. The U.S. Embassy in Cairo will assist U.S. citizens with travel documents. U.S. citizens who do not hold a valid U.S. passport or visa and are interested in departing Egypt via USG-chartered transportation should contact the US Department of State and Embassy Cairo by sending an email to [EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov](mailto:EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov) or by calling 1-202-501-4444.

What do I do if my child is a U.S. citizen, but hasn't yet been documented?

Contact the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. U.S. citizens who do not hold a valid U.S. passport or visa interested in departing Egypt via USG-chartered transportation should contact the U.S. Department of State and Embassy Cairo by sending an email to [EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov](mailto:EgyptEmergencyUSC@state.gov) or by calling 1-202-501-4444.

My family members aren't U.S. citizens. Can they travel with me?

The scheduled evacuation flights will transport U.S. citizens and their immediate family members. Immediate family members – defined as spouses and children – who are not U.S. citizens, will be required to have travel documentation that will permit their entry into the safe haven destinations. At this time, flights are expected to travel to Istanbul, Turkey, Athens, Greece, and Nicosia, Cyprus. Safe haven destinations may change. U.S. citizens requesting evacuation will not be able to select their safe haven destinations.

Will you fly me to the United States?

Our goal is to get people to a safe place, where they can make their own onward travel arrangements. Travelers will be responsible for their own onward travel arrangements and accommodations in the safe haven city. Consular officers will provide travelers with information on airlines and hotels.

What should I bring?

Travelers should bring valid travel documents and any necessary medications.

Each traveler may bring one suitcase and a small personal carry-on item.

U.S. citizens seeking evacuation should be prepared for a substantial wait at the airport. Travelers are advised to bring food, water, diapers and other necessary toiletries with them to the airport.

What about my pets?

Evacuation flights will not be able to accommodate pets.

**Do I have to pay for the flight?**

U.S. citizens requesting evacuation will be asked to sign paperwork promising to reimburse the U.S. Government for flight costs at a later date. Exact flight costs are not yet available, but should be comparable to a one-way commercial flight from Egypt to the safe haven location.

How do I get to the airport?

At this time, public transport to include taxis is still operating in Egypt.

**Travel Warning - U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**  
**Bureau of Consular Affairs - Egypt – February 1, 2011**

On February 1, the Department of State ordered the departure of all non-emergency U.S. government personnel and family members from Egypt. This replaces the Travel Warning for Egypt dated January 28, 2011. The U.S. Department of State continues to recommend that U.S. citizens avoid travel to Egypt at this time. U.S. citizens should consider leaving Egypt as soon as they can safely do so, due to ongoing political and social unrest. Large-scale demonstrations with the potential for violence continue in several areas of Cairo, Alexandria, and other parts of the country, and rail and road travel has been disrupted between cities, and between city centers and airports. Disruptions in communications, including internet service, also continue. The Government of Egypt may also disrupt mobile phone service during future demonstrations. The Government of Egypt modified the curfew times and locations; now 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. throughout Egypt until further notice. U.S. citizens should obey curfew orders and remain indoors during curfew hours.

U.S. citizens currently in Egypt should monitor international and local media to stay abreast of announcements from the embassy. Due to the fluid nature of the situation and the volume of phone calls to the embassy, U.S. citizens should not wait for a reply from the embassy or the Department of State before traveling to the nearest airport.

Cairo airport is open and operating, but flights may be delayed or cancelled, and transport to the airport is disrupted, due to the protests. Travelers should remain in contact with their airlines or tour operators concerning flight schedules, and arrange to arrive at the airport well before curfew hours.

The U.S. Department of State is making arrangements to provide charter air transportation to safe haven locations in Europe of U.S. citizens and eligible dependents who wish to depart Egypt. This assistance will be provided on a reimbursable basis, as required by U.S. law. U.S. citizens who travel on U.S. Government-arranged transport will be expected to make their own onward travel plans from the safe haven location; currently: Larnaca, Cyprus; Istanbul, Turkey; Frankfurt, Germany; and Athens, Greece. Flights to evacuation points began departing Cairo on Monday, January 31. There will be a limited number of seats available on future evacuation flights. Priority will be given to persons with medical emergencies or severe medical conditions. Persons interested in departing Egypt via U.S. Government-arranged chartered transportation should proceed to one of the airports in Cairo, Alexandria, Luxor, or Aswan.

U.S. citizens with a valid passport wishing to depart from Cairo may proceed to the Cairo International Airport, Terminal 1, Hall 4, (a/k/a “Hajj Terminal”) as soon as possible after the morning end of the curfew on February 3. For U.S. citizens attempting to depart via Alexandria, airports are all open and there are commercial flights available to U.S. citizens. If traveling from Luxor, Alexandria, or Aswan airport, be sure to have a confirmed ticket and know the terminal you need before traveling to the airport.

There are two operational airports in Alexandria: Primary airport: Borg El Arab - two terminals: One newer where commercial flights are departing. Older terminal where chartered flights are departing and some commercial flights. Secondary airport: El Nouzha – older, under reconstruction. Passengers must have a ticket in hand, or arrange to purchase a ticket via cell phone or internet. Tickets are NOT being sold at the airport.

Immediate family members (spouses and children) who are not U.S. citizens must be documented for entry into the safe haven country and/or the United States, if that is their final destination. Travelers who are not U.S. citizens but are accompanying a U.S. citizen immediate family member (child, spouse, parent of minor child) should have a valid passport. U.S. citizens seeking evacuation should be prepared for a substantial wait at the airport. Travelers are advised to bring food, water, diapers, and other necessary toiletries with them to the airport. Travelers will not be able to choose their destination, and they are permitted only one piece of luggage per person. Travelers may not bring pets.

In the event of demonstrations, U.S. citizens in Egypt should remain in their residences or hotels until the demonstrations subside. Security forces may block off the area around the U.S. Embassy during demonstrations, and U.S. citizens should not attempt to come to the U.S. Embassy or the Tahrir Square area during that time. Demonstrations have degenerated on several occasions into violent clashes between police and protesters, resulting in injuries and extensive property damage. While demonstrations have not been directed toward Westerners, U.S. citizens are urged to remain alert to local security developments and to be vigilant regarding their personal security.

The U.S. Department of State strongly urges U.S. citizens to avoid all demonstrations, as even peaceful ones can quickly become unruly and a foreigner could become a target of harassment or worse. If caught unexpectedly near a demonstration, U.S. citizens should obey instructions from police and leave the area as quickly as possible. U.S. citizens resident in Egypt should monitor local news broadcasts and U.S. citizen visitors should ask tour guides and hotel officials about any planned demonstrations in the locations they plan to visit. U.S. citizens should carry identification and a cell phone that works in Egypt.

The U.S. Embassy will be open only for emergency services to U.S. citizens until further notice. As always, any change to Embassy hours will be posted on the [Embassy website](#). Family members of U.S. citizens in Egypt may also enroll them in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). U.S. citizens in Egypt, or their loved ones, may contact the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Embassy in Cairo via [email](#), or at 1-202-501-4444. Please follow the directions on the [Embassy website](#) for all other consular inquiries.

Current information on travel and security in Egypt may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. For further information, please consult the [Country Specific Information for Egypt](#), as well as the [Worldwide Caution](#).